We claim:

1. A method for compiling source code using a compiler having a classpath, comprising the steps of:

> 1) determining if a referenced class file is located in a workspace;
>
> 2) locating said class file in said workspace;
>
> 3) accessing said class file; and
>
> 4) returning said class file data to said compiler.

2. The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the step of locating said class file further comprises the steps of:

> identifying a location of a class using a workspace indicator in said classpath; and
>
> reading said class from said location.

3. The method as set forth in claim 2, wherein said indicator comprises a signature string, a user ID, a project ID, and a workspace name.

4. The method as set forth in claim 2, wherein the step of determining if a referenced class file is located in a workspace further comprises the steps of:

reading an item from said classpath;

determining if said item references said file system or said workspace;

searching a file system directory specified by said item if said item references said file system; and

searching said workspace if said item references said workspace.

5. The method as set forth in claim 2, wherein said class file data is contained in a database.

6. The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said class file is contained within a .JAR file in said workspace.

7. The method as set forth in claim1, wherein said source code is Java.

8. A computer program product for compiling source code, comprising computer executable instructions for:

1) determining if a referenced class file is located in a workspace;

2) locating said class file;

3) accessing said class file; and

4) returning said class file data to said compiler.

9.  The computer program product as set forth in claim 8, wherein the computer executable instructions for locating said class file further comprises computer executable instructions for:

  identifying a location of a class using a workspace indicator in said classpath; and

  reading said class from said location.

10.  The computer program product as set forth in claim 9, wherein said indicator comprises a signature string, a user ID, a project ID, and a workspace name.

11.  The computer program product as set forth in claim 8, wherein the step of determining if a referenced class file is located in a workspace further computer executable instructions for:

  reading an item from said classpath;

  determining if said item references said file system or said workspace;

  searching a file system directory specified by said item if said item references said file system;

  searching said workspace if said item references said workspace.

12.  The computer program product as set forth in claim 8, wherein said class file is contained in a database.

13. The computer program product as set forth in claim 8, wherein said class file is contained in a .JAR file.

14. The computer program product as set forth in claim 8, wherein said source code is Java.

15.    A system for compiling source code using a compiler having a classpath, comprising:

      at least one workspace;

      at least one referenced class file;

      wherein said compiler determines if a said referenced class file is located in a workspace, accesses said referenced class file, and returns class data from said referenced class file.

16. The system as set forth in claim 15, wherein said compiler identifies a location of said class file using a workspace indicator in said classpath.

17. The system as set forth in claim 16, wherein said indicator comprises a signature string, a user ID, a project ID, and a workspace name.

18. The system as set forth in claim 15, wherein said class file is contained in a database.

19. The system as set forth in claim 15, wherein said class file is contained in a .JAR file.

20. The system as set forth in claim 15, wherein said source code is Java.